

country at large is going to be benefited by privatisation ?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM) : (a) The existing labour laws such as the Industrial Disputes Act, the Payment of Wages Act, etc. provide, inter-alia, measures for safeguarding the interests of the labour force in industries including those which are being privatised. Such privatised industries are subject to the same rules and regulations as are applicable to other similar industries in the private sector.

(b) No information about the number of industries/corporations privatised so far in Bihar is available.

(c) The benefits of privatisation for the labour force will depend on the manner in which it is undertaken in individual cases and it is not possible to draw general conclusions on the effect on labour force in the country.

Expenditure Management Commission

6185. SHRI T. GOPAL KRISHNA : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether a decision to appoint an Expenditure Management Commission was taken nearly eight months ago;

(b) if so, whether the Commission has been functioning; and

(c) if not, the time by which it is likely to start function ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.P. VEERENDRA KUMAR) : (a) to (c) The Expenditure Management and Reforms Commission which was proposed in the Budget speech 1996-97 has not yet been set up. As its constitution is dependent on getting the consent of the appropriate members, no particular time has been set for its constitution.

Nomination Facilities in Share Certificates

6186. SHRI VIJAY KUMAR KHANDELWAL : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are aware that there is no nomination facility in share certificates;

(b) if so, whether on death of the share holder the successors have to bear lengthy legal formalities;

(c) if so, whether Government propose to provide nomination facility similar to post office deposit schemes or the 'Either or Survivor' provision on bank pattern to the shareholders;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.P. VEERENDRA KUMAR) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir.

(c) to (e) The Working Group set up by the Government to re-write to draft of the new Companies Act has recommended to provide for facility of nomination to share/debenture holders of the companies. A provision to this effect finds place in the Working Draft of the Companies Bill (vide Section 74) submitted by the Working Group, and already released for public debate. Government proposes to implement this proposal as announced in the 1997 Budget Speech of the Finance Minister.

Shortage of Court Fee Stamps

6187. SHRI BHIMRAO VISHNUJI BADADE : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are aware of the acute shortage of court fee stamps in several States for official use; and

(b) if so, the steps taken by the Government in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.P. VEERENDRA KUMAR) : (a) and (b) The Government has not received any complaint of shortage of Court fee stamps in the country during the last three years.

[Translation]

Reservation in Promotion

6188. SHRI PUNNU LAL MOHLE : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to bring Constitution Amendment in the light of the Supreme Court decision to maintain the status quo for providing benefits of promotion to SCs/STs in Government services which are coming to an end in November, 1997;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI S.R. BALASUBRAMONIYAN) : (a) to (c) The Constitution has already been amended by Constitution (Seventy-seventh Amendment) Act, 1995 and Article 16 (4A) inserted in the Constitution. This Article enables the State to make provision for reservation in promotion to any class or classes of the posts in the services under the State in favour of Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes, which in the opinion of the State, are not adequately represented in the services under the State.